

# Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

Twenty ninth Sunday of the Year

# WEEK I

22 October 2023 5.00pm

# THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray continually". Through hymns, psalms, canticles, readings, and prayers, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times are Morning Prayer: Lauds (which takes place upon rising) and Evening Prayer: Vespers (which takes place as dusk begins to fall). The Office of Vespers gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God.

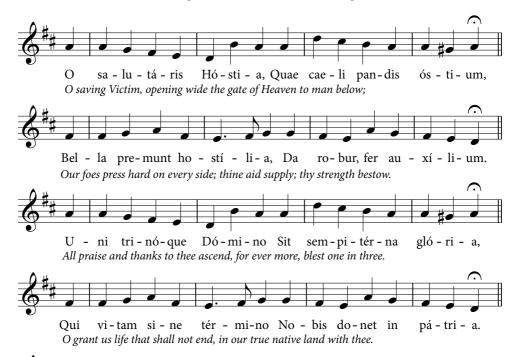
Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organised around this prayer, keeping God always at the centre of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer. The public singing of Lauds and Vespers is a regular part of the life and worship of St Mary's Cathedral.

#### TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY, PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

# EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.

As the Blessed Sacrament is brought to the altar all kneel and sing:





## ORDER OF VESPERS

## INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

 V. Deus, in adiutorium meum intende.
 R. Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia. O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

#### OFFICE HYMN

Lucis Creator optime, Lucem dierum proferens, Primordiis lucis novæ Mundi parans originem.

Qui mane iunctum vesperi Diem vocari præcipis; Tætrum chaos illabitur; Audi preces cum fletibus.

Ne mens gravata crimine, Vitæ sit exsul munere, Dum nil perenne cogitat, Sesesque culpis illigat.

Cælorum pulset intimum, Vitale tollat præmium: Vitemus omne noxium, Purgemus omne pessimum.

Præsta Pater piisime, Patrique compar Unice, Cum Spiritu Paraclito, Regnans per omne sæculum. Amen. Blest Creator of the light, Making day with radiance bright, Thou didst o'er the forming earth Give the golden light its birth.

Shade of eve with morning ray Took from thee the name of day; Darkness now is drawing nigh; Listen to our humble cry.

May we ne'er by guilt depressed Lose the way to endless rest; Nor with idle thoughts and vain Bind our souls to earth again.

Rather may we heavenward rise Where eternal treasure lies; Purified by grace within, Hating every deed of sin.

Father, what we ask be done Through thy well-beloved Son; With the Holy Ghost and thee Reigning through eternity. Amen.

## **PSALMODY**

## FIRST ANTIPHON

VIRGAM virtutis suæ emittet Dominus ex Sion, et regnabit in sæculum sæculi, alleluia.

The Lord will send his mighty sceptre from Sion, and he will rule for ever, alleluia.

## PSALM 109 (110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo:	<i>The Lord's revelation to my Master:</i>
«Sede a dextris meis,	<i>'Sit on my right:</i>
donec ponam inimicos tuos:	your foes I will put
scabellum pedum tuorum».	beneath your feet.'
Virgam potentiæ tuæ emittet Dominus ex Sion:	The Lord will wield from Zion your sceptre of power:
dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum.	rule in the midst of all your foes.
Tecum principatus in die virtutis tuæ,	A prince from the day of your birth
in splendoribus sanctis:	on the holy mountains;
ex utero ante luciferum genui te.	from the womb before the dawn I begot you.
Iuravit Dominus et non pænitebit eum:	The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.
«Tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum	'You are a priest for ever,
ordinem Melchisedech».	a priest like Melchizedek of old.'
Dominus a dextris tuis: conquassabit in die iræ suæ reges.	The Master standing at your right hand will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.
De torrente in via bibet:	He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
propterea exaltabit caput.	and therefore he shall lift up his head.
Gloria Patri et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto.	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
The Antiphon is repeated.	

## SECOND ANTIPHON

 $F_{\rm eius,\ alleluia.}^{\rm ACTA\ est\ Iud imesa\ sanctificatio}$ 

Judah became his sanctuary, alleluia.

## PSALM 113A (114)

In exitu Israel de Ægypto,	When Israel came forth from Egypt,
domus Iacob de populo barbaro,	Jacob's sons from an alien people,
factus est Iuda sanctuarium eius,	Judah became the Lord's temple,
Israel potestas eius.	Israel became his kingdom.
Mare vidit et fugit,	The sea fled at the sight:
Iordanis conversus est retrorsum;	the Jordan turned back on its course,
montes saltaverunt ut arietes,	the mountains leapt like rams
et colles sicut agni ovium.	and the hills like yearling sheep.
Quid est tibi, mare, quod fugisti?	Why was it, sea, that you fled,
Et tu, Iordanis,	that you turned back, Jordan,
quia conversus es retrorsum?	on your course?
Montes, quod saltastis sicut arietes,	Mountains, that you leapt like rams;
et colles, sicut agni ovium?	hills, like yearling sheep?
A facie Domini contremisce, terra, a facie Dei Iacob,	<i>Tremble, O earth, before the Lord, in the presence of the God of Jacob,</i>
qui convertit petram	who turns the rock
in stagna aquarum	into a pool
et silicem in fontes aquarum.	and flint into a spring of water.
Gloria Patri, et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto,	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
The Antiphon is repeated.	

#### THIRD ANTIPHON

**R**EGNAVIT Dominus Deus noster monter commipotens, alleluia.

The Lord is King: our God, the Almighty, alleluia.

# CANTICLE

# Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro:	Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius.	his judgements are true and just.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius:	Praise our God, all you his servants,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni!	you who fear him, small and great.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Quoniam regnavit Dominus,	The Lord our God,

Quoniam regnavit Dominus, Deus noster omnipotens: Alleluia. Gaudeamus et exsultemus et demus gloriam ei. Alleluia, alleluia.

> Alleluia. Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni: Alleluia. et uxor eius præparavit se. Alleluia, alleluia.

> > Alleluia. Gloria Patri et Filio: Alleluia. et Spiritui Sancto. Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper Alleluia. et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia. the Almighty, reigns, Alleluia. let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory. Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. The marriage of the Lamb has come, Alleluia. and his bride has made herself ready. Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia.Alleluia.i et Filio:Glory be to the Father and to the SonAlleluia.Alleluia.i Sancto.and to the Holy Spirit,, alleluia.Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Alleluia. world without end. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Antiphon is repeated.

LET us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the merciful Father, the God from whom all help comes. He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help those who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we have received from God.

## SHORT RESPONSORY

Benedictus es, Domine,	Blessed are you, O Lord,
in firmamento cæli.	in the vault of heaven.
9. Et laudabilis et gloriosus in s écula. R.	You are exalted and glorified above all else for ever.
۷. Gloria Patri et Filio	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto. R.	and to the Holy Spirit.

All stand.

## MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

REDDITE ergo quæ sunt Cæsaris Cæsari et quæ sunt Dei, Deo, alleluia.

*Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God, alleluia.* 

## MAGNIFICAT

#### Primi toni

## Francisco Guerrero (1528–1599)

Magnificat	My soul
anima mea Dominum,	glorifies the Lord,
et exsultavit spiritus meus	my spirit rejoices
in Deo salutari meo,	in God, my Saviour.
quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ.	He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent	henceforth all ages
omnes generationes,	will call me blessed.
quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est,	The Almighty works marvels for me.
et sanctum nomen eius,	Holy his name!
et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.	<i>His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.</i>
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui;	<i>He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.</i>
deposuit potentes de sede; et exaltavit humiles;	<i>He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.</i>
esurientes implevit bonis	He fills the starving with good things,
et divites dimisit inanes.	sends the rich away empty.
Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiæ suæ,	<i>He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,</i>
sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,	the mercy promised to our fathers,
Abraham et semini eius in sæcula.	to Abraham and his sons for ever.
Gloria Patri et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto.	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
<i>The Antiphon is repeated.</i>	

## INTERCESSIONS

Christ is the Head of his body, the Church, and we are members of that body; gathered this evening to pray in his name, we say:

#### R? Your kingdom come!

May your Church be a light to the nations, the sign and source of your power to unite all men: may she lead mankind to the mystery of your love.  $R_{2}^{\prime}$ 

Guide the Pope, and all the bishops of your Church: grant them the gifts of unity, of love, and of peace.  $R_{2}$ 

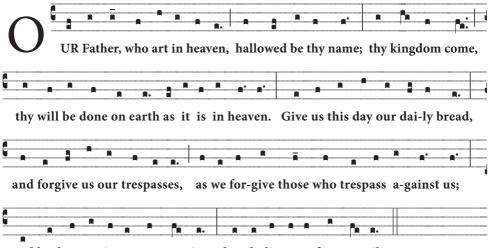
Lord, give peace to our troubled world and give to your children security of mind, and freedom from anxiety.  $R_{2}^{\prime}$ 

Help us to bring your compassion to the poor, the sick, the lonely, the unloved; lead us to find you in the coming week.  $R_{2}^{\prime}$ 

Awaken the dead to a glorious resurrection: may we be united with them at the end of time.  $R_{.}^{\prime}$ 

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:





and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil.

## COLLECT

ALMIGHTY, ever-living God, make us ever obey you willingly and promptly. Teach us how to serve you with sincere and upright hearts in every sphere of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

The Choir sings

## THE MOTET

ECCE quam bonum et quam jucundum, habitare fratres in unum! Sicut unguentum in capite, quod descendit in barbam, barbam Aaron, quod descendit in oram vestimenti ejus; sicut ros Hermon, qui descendit in montem Sion. Quoniam illic mandavit Dominus benedictionem, et vitam usque in saeculum.

How good and how pleasant it is, when brothers live in unity! It is like precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, running down upon Aaron's beard, upon the collar of his robes; Like the dew of Hermon, which runs down on the mountains of Sion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing: life forever.

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

All sing



who from both with both is One.

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Y. Panem de cælo præstitísti e- is. You gave them bread from heaven.



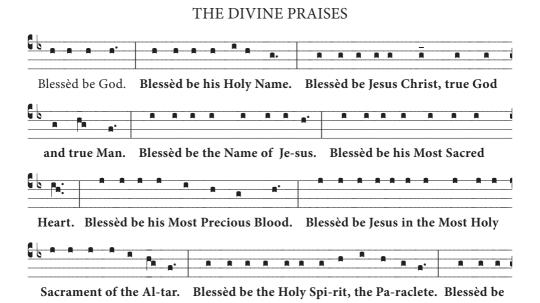
R. Omne delectaméntum in se habén- tem. Containing in itself all sweetness.

Oremus.

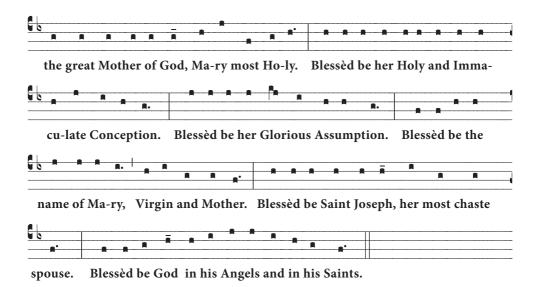
DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum. Let us pray.

O God, who in a wonderful Sacrament has left us a memorial of your passion: grant us so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

RX Amen.



#### BENEDICTION *is given*.

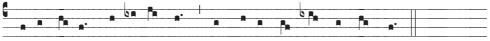


As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



A-do-rémus \* in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa- cra-mén-tum. Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes:	O praise the Lord, all you nations,
laudate eum omnes populi.	acclaim his all you peoples!
Quoniam confirmata est super nos	Strong is his
misericordia eius:	love for us;
et veritas Domini manet in æternum.	he is faithful for ever.
Gloria Patri, et Filio:	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto,	and to the Holy Spirit,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper:	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.



**A-do-rémus** \* in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa- cra-mén-tum. Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

All sing

## THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Organ Voluntary

Marcia (Symphonie III)

Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

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